

What is claimed is:

1. A method for sharing television program-viewing experiences, the method comprising:

creating a set of tags for the segments of a viewed program indicative of the opinion of a first user; and

distributing said set of tags to a plurality of other users to allow said other users to replay said program in accordance with said tags.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the tags are distributed via email.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein the tags are distributed through a centralized server.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein the tags are distributed through a peer-to-peer network.
5. The method of claim 1, wherein tags are applied to segments of particular interest to the first user.
6. The method of claim 1, wherein tags are applied to segments of little interest to the first user.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of distributing includes providing the set of tags at no charge.
8. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of distributing includes selling the set of tags.
9. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of distributing includes providing the set of tags as a component of a subscription service.
10. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:

viewing the program by at least one of the other users and using the tags to alter the program playback.
11. The method of claim 10, wherein altering the program playback comprises skipping one or more segments of the program.
12. The method of claim 10, wherein altering the program playback comprises playing only one or more segments of the program.
13. The method of claim 10, wherein altering the program playback comprises playing only segments of the program that are indicated as desirable.
14. The method of claim 10, wherein altering the program playback is performed automatically by a personal video recorder.

15. The method of claim 10, wherein altering the program playback is performed selectively in accordance with commands from the other users.
16. The method of claim 10, wherein the set of tags are received by a server.
17. The method of claim 10, wherein the set of tags are received directly by the other users.
18. A method for indicating viewing preferences associated with a program to a community of PVR users, the method comprising:
 - creating a tag file for the program, the tag file including a plurality of tags associated with certain portions of the program, each tag indicating one of a desirable and an undesirable rating of a first user;
 - transmitting said tag file from at least one PVR;
 - receiving the tag file by a second PVR;
 - displaying on a TV associated with the second PVR tags from the tag file to indicate program segment viewing preferences from the first PVR.
19. The method of claim 18, wherein the second PVR receives the tag file from a network server.
20. The method of claim 18, wherein the displayed tags are used to skip portions of a viewed program.

21. The method of claim 20, wherein the skipped portions are skipped automatically by the PVR.
22. The method of claim 20, wherein the skipped portions are manually skipped by the user viewing the program.
23. The method of claim 18, wherein the displayed tags are used to indicate portions of the program that are more desirable to view.
24. The method of claim 18, wherein the displayed tags are used to indicate portions of the program that are less desirable to view.
25. The method of claim 18, wherein the displayed tags display the information in a binary format.
26. The method of claim 18, wherein the displayed tags display the information in an analog format.
27. A personal video recorder comprising:
 - a personal video recording unit for viewing and recording programs;
 - a remote control unit, including a key for sending viewer preference commands to the personal video recording unit;

a tag file generating unit for creating tags of program segments of a predetermined character based on preference commands; and

a network connection, attached to the personal video recording unit, for sharing the tag file.

28. A personal video recorder comprising:

a personal video recording unit for recording programs and playing back previously recorded programs;

a network connection, attached to the personal video recording unit, for receiving a tag file with tags associated with user preferences; and

a processing unit for adjusting playback of the personal video recording unit based on said tag file.